

## THE BALTIMORE CONFERENCE

## An Important Methodist Body Soon to Convene.

### The District Deaconesses' Homes.

The one hundred and eleventh session of the Baltimore annual conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the proceedings of which more than 250,000 citizens of the District of Columbia, Maryland and West Virginia are directly interested, will begin in the Mount Vernon place M. E. Church, Baltimore, Wednesday, September 3, and the sessions will continue for about one week.

Three members, who had not missed a session for more than half a century, have passed away since the conference met last year. These are: Rev. Dr. Thomas Meyers, who was for many years agent of the Maryland Bible Society; Rev. John W. Cornelius, who, as pastor, had served many of the most important appointments in the conference; and Rev. W. T. D. Clemm, who, after having filled many leading pastorates, took a supernumerary relation a few years ago. The latter was an exceptional minister and up to the period when he was afflicted with a fatal illness a few months ago, was despite the fact that he was eighty years of age, a time of life when most men's mental powers are supposed to be declining, one of the ablest men in his place where he had formerly been stationed as a minister.

The conference will be presided over by Bishop Andrews, formerly a resident of Washington, but now living in New York city.

### But Few Changes.

So far as is known there will be but few changes in the location of any of the ministers of the Baltimore conference at the twelfth conference year, there being a rule that a minister may remain five years over one charge. Two of the preachers in Washington, Revs. A. E. Gibson, D. D., and Joel Brown, will have served the full limit when the conference meets, and they will be assigned to other churches. Rev. J. D. Smith, of the Mt. Savage, Md., and Joseph P. Wilson at Great Falls, Md., are in the same category.

The active membership of the conference is 219 ministers who are stationed on the western shore of Maryland, the District of Columbia, in Frederick county, Virginia, and in the States of West Virginia and West Virginia. Connected with the conference and recognizing its authority are also 141 local preachers and 47,000 male and female members of the conference churches. There are also 41 Sunday schools, with 7,351 officers and teachers and 53,000 scholars. The real property of the conference consists of 1,259 churches, valued at \$3,334,750, and 124 parsonages, valued at \$455,950, each beyond all indebtedness.

### The Deaconess Homes.

One of the most interesting questions likely to come before the conference during its session is that relating to "Deaconess Homes," of which is styled the "Lucy Webb Hayes Deaconess Home," to which is attached a Bible and training school, and the Sibley Hospital, is located in Washington. It is among the most prosperous of the Deaconess Homes in the world, having thirty deaconesses and probationers, and property valued at \$25,000.

The deaconess work in the Methodist Episcopal Church began in Germany, where it was largely patterned after the work of the Lutheran Church in America. The work was first organized at Chicago in 1887, and was recognized and legalized by the general assembly of the church in 1890. Since that year the second home was organized at Cincinnati, Ohio, and since that time the growth of the movement has been rapid.

The deaconesses are trained in the deaconesses have been specially employed, are house-to-house visitation, in which they are usually associated with a pastor. In the performance of this duty they care for the sick and probationers, children and others needing oversight; nursing, through which they are numerously engaged, and in other ways otherwise suffer are provided with care free of expense. One of the homes alone has sent out nurses to care for more than 100,000 cases of sickness. In addition to these visits were in many cases accompanied with gifts of medicine, food and clothing, while in a number of instances deaconesses have willingly given up their positions in hospitals, whose officers were not connected with the movement; work in kindergarten and kindergartens; work in orphan children; service in industrial schools and kindergartens; prison and police station work, and work in orphanages, a deaconess orphanage having been established at Chicago as auxiliary to the home there.

### ELECTION IN PHILADELPHIA.

#### A Mayor and Other Municipal Officers to Be Elected Today.

Philadelphia will today elect a mayor, receiver of taxes, eleven members of select council, seventy-nine members of common council and twelve police magistrates.

The election, which practically ended yesterday night, has been one of the hottest that the city has seen for many years.

Governor Pattison has made a vigorous campaign and he promised in his letter of acceptance that, if elected, he would give Philadelphia a non-partisan, business administration. His opponents, however, point to his turning republicans out of office to make room for democrats when he has been elected.

The city council, which is elected by the voters, has been elected by the voters, who have made a careful canvass, claims that Charles E. Warwick will be elected by at least 40,000 plurality.

### Carriages at the Grand Opera House.

The police anticipate some trouble in enforcing the new regulation concerning the taking up of passengers at Albaugh's Grand Opera House during the appearance of the Metropolitan Opera Company this week. This new regulation, as heretofore printed in The Star, provides that it shall be unlawful for the drivers or owners of carriages to take up passengers from Albaugh's to take up passengers at the Pennsylvania avenue entrance. The regulations also provide that drivers desiring to remain during the performance shall leave the city streets before 11 o'clock, and the Commissioners to suspend the enforcement of the law on this occasion the regulation will be enforced and some arrests may follow.

### Brutal Murder in Hoboken.

Christopher Spearling murdered his wife in their poor tenement in Hoboken, N. J., yesterday, cutting her throat with a razor. The cause was jealousy by the murderer's mother, seventy-two years old. Jealousy is alleged to have prompted the crime.

### To Prison for Life.

Wm. Kelly, who was convicted last Friday of the murder of Mrs. Weldon at her home in West 55th street, New York, has been sentenced to the penitentiary for life. Kelly split Mrs. Weldon's head open with a hatchet last October, because she had adopted improper ethics to his children.

### Gays Sustained.

The Alabama house yesterday sustained the governor's veto in the alien railroad bill by a vote of 53 to 31.

The governor today nominated Captain Harvey E. Jones as railroad commissioner, and the senate confirmed the nomination.